

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7730

Petition of Vermont Electric Power Company,     )  
Inc. and Vermont Transco LLC (collectively,     )  
known as "VELCO"), for a certificate of public     )  
good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing:     )  
(1) the installation of two variable shunt reactors     )  
at the Coolidge Substation in Ludlow, Vermont;     )  
(2) the installation of one variable shunt reactor     )  
at the New Haven Substation; and (3) the     )  
relocation of an existing static shunt reactor     )  
from the New Haven Substation to the Vernon     )  
Substation     )

Order entered: 5/6/2011

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM**

On March 21, 2011, Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. and Vermont Transco LLC (collectively, "VELCO") filed a joint petition with the Vermont Public Service Board ("Board") for a certificate of public good pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248, authorizing the installation of two variable shunt reactors at the Coolidge Substation in Ludlow, Vermont, the installation of one variable shunt reactor at the New Haven Substation in New Haven, Vermont, and the relocation of an existing static shunt reactor from the New Haven Substation to the Vernon Substation in Vernon, Vermont (collectively, the "Project"). A prehearing conference was convened in this docket on April 28, 2011. The following parties entered appearances: Joslyn L. Wilschek, Esq., Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC, for VELCO; Geoffrey Commons, Esq., for the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department"); and Judith Dillon, Esq., for the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources ("ANR").

### **Intervention**

No other parties were present or identified at the prehearing conference who wished to seek intervention in this proceeding. This Order sets a deadline of June 17 for such requests.

### **SCHEDULE, PUBLIC HEARING & PROTECTIVE ORDER**

The primary topic of discussion was the schedule for this proceeding. VELCO distributed two versions of a proposed schedule to the parties, one which considered intervention and one which did not. I ruled that the proposed schedule with intervention will serve as the basis for the working schedule in this proceeding. The proposed schedule reflected a goal of filing a Stipulation or Status Report with the Board by August 12. The Department and ANR agreed with VELCO's proposed schedule, but with the recommendation that the date for the Technical Hearing be a tentative date scheduled for September 2.

The parties also discussed scheduling for the site visits and the public hearings. The Department proposed separate public hearings and site visits at each location of the Project, and recommended that at least one public hearing be conducted utilizing the Vermont Interactive Television network system to make the process more efficient. Upon further discussion, the parties agreed that June 7-9 would serve as tentative target dates for separate site visits and public hearings for the three locations of the Project.

During the prehearing conference, the parties also discussed VELCO's Motion for Confidential Treatment of Selected Prefiled Evidence concerning exhibits VELCO-Diebold-2 and VELCO-Barrett-2 through 11, which VELCO alleges may contain Critical Energy Infrastructure Information ("CEII"). No party objected to the Motion. However, Board staff pointed out that VELCO did not file an averment log with its Motion in accordance with the Board's guidance on the recommended process for seeking a protective order for CEII-related information. Board staff also noted that VELCO did not provide a signed Protective Agreement with its filing. VELCO responded that it will re-file the CEII documents in compliance with the Board's guidance and provide a signed Protective Agreement. Accordingly, I have set out below a deadline by which VELCO must file the CEII documents and the Protective Agreement, and a deadline for responses to the motion. I will then rule on VELCO's Motion for Confidential Treatment of the re-filed information.

After discussion with the parties, I have adopted and modified the schedule as set forth below:

April 28, 2011	Prehearing Conference
May 16, 2011	VELCO files Protective Agreement and re-files CEII documents according to Board's guidance on confidential treatment
May 20, 2011	First round of discovery by DPS and ANR
May 23, 2011	Responses to Motion for Confidential Treatment
June 7, 8, and 9, 2011	Site Visits/Public Hearings: June 7 - Vernon, June 8 - Cavendish/Ludlow, June 9 - New Haven
June 17, 2011	Deadline for Intervention Motions (Motions may be filed at any time prior to the deadline. Other parties shall file responses to such motions within 7-calendar days of the time the motion is filed.) Responses to first round of DPS and ANR discovery.
June 24, 2011	Responses to Motions to Intervene
July 8, 2011	Second round of DPS and ANR discovery; first round of discovery by any parties granted intervention
July 22, 2011	Responses to discovery requests
August 12, 2011	Stipulation or Status report due. If the parties cannot stipulate, the parties shall file a proposed or stipulated schedule for the remainder of the proceeding.
September 2, 2011	Tentative Technical Hearing

**So ORDERED.**

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011.

s/Jay E. Dudley

Jay E. Dudley  
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: May 6, 2011

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)*